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Counsel for MashreqBank, psc in the
Luther action

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MAINE STATE RETIREMENT
SYSTEM, Individually and On Behalf
of All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL
CORPORATION, et al.,

Defendants.

No. 2:10-cv-00302-MRP(MANx)

CLASS ACTION

DECLARATION OF AZRA Z.
MEHDI ON BEHALF OF THE
MEHDI FIRM, PC IN SUPPORT OF
APPLICATION FOR AWARD OF
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND
EXPENSES

[Caption continued on following page.]

WESTERN CONFERENCE OF
TEAMSTERS PENSION TRUST
FUND, Individually and On Behalf of
All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL
CORPORATION, et al.,

Defendants.

No. 2:12-cv-05122-MRP(MANx)

CLASS ACTION

DAVID H. LUTHER, et al.,
Individually and On Behalf of All
Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

COUNTRYWIDE FINANCIAL
CORPORATION, et al.,

Defendants.

No. 2:12-cv-05125-MRP(MANx)

CLASS ACTION

1 I, AZRA Z. MEHDI, declare as follows:

2 1. I am the principal at The Mehdi Firm, PC (“The Mehdi Firm”), counsel
3 to Lead Plaintiff MashreqBank, psc (“MashreqBank”) in the above-referenced case,
4 particularly in the action entitled, *Luther v. Countrywide Financial Corporation, et al.*,
5 Case No. 2:12-cv-05125-MRP(MANx) (“*Luther*”). I am admitted to practice in the
6 State of California and the State of New York. I am also admitted to the Central
7 District of California, as well as several other federal courts in the country.

8 2. I respectfully submit this declaration in support of The Mehdi Firm’s
9 application for an award of attorneys’ fees and expenses in connection with my
10 services and my firm’s services rendered in the above-entitled action. I have personal
11 knowledge of the facts stated herein and upon request can and will competently testify
12 thereto.

13 3. Until December 2009, I was a partner at Coughlin Stoia Geller Rudman
14 & Robbins LLP, now known as Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP (hereinafter
15 collectively referred to as “Robbins Geller”), Co-Lead Counsel in the *Luther* action.

16 4. In late 2008, MashreqBank, a Dubai-based, United Arab Emirates bank,
17 retained me and my then law firm Robbins Geller to investigate and represent its
18 interests in connection with losses incurred through MashreqBank’s investments in
19 securities issued by Countrywide Financial Corporation (“CFC”), including various
20 subsidiaries and special purpose vehicles. In that capacity, I have participated in the
21 litigation at various levels since 2008. Prior to this action, MashreqBank had never
22 previously been a plaintiff in any securities litigation in the United States and relied
23 substantially on my expertise as well as that of Co-Lead Counsel Robbins Geller.

24 5. MashreqBank was appointed as one of the lead plaintiffs in the *Luther*
25 action in the Superior Court of California, Los Angeles County. I have been counsel to
26 MashreqBank since the commencement of that matter and its subsequent removal and
27 incorporation into the above-referenced cases. I have since inception been and
28

1 currently am MashreqBank's primary contact and liaison in connection with this
2 litigation. I have had the sole responsibility for analyzing and collecting
3 MashreqBank's transactions and related information and investments in the CFC
4 securities to provide to Robbins Geller. I have kept MashreqBank fully informed of
5 the status of the case both in state court and federal court as well as during the
6 appellate process. In addition, I have kept MashreqBank informed of the settlement
7 process and obtained input regarding litigation and settlement discussions specifically
8 pertaining to settlement parameters in the lengthy settlement negotiations that resulted
9 in the \$500 million Settlement, including crafting of the proposed Plan of Allocation.

10 6. MashreqBank's participation in this litigation has greatly enhanced the
11 value of the Settlement inasmuch as MashreqBank was the sole representative for
12 various offerings and tranches, including the following:

No.	Offering (Tranche)	Registration Statement No.
1	CWALT 2005-38(A3)	333-125902
2	CWALT 2005-51(1A1)	333-125902
3	CWALT 2005-51(2A1)	333-125902
4	CWALT 2005-51(4A1)	333-125902
5	CWALT 2005-59(1A2A)	333-125902
6	CWALT 2005-62(1A1)	333-125902
7	CWALT 2005-76 (3A1)	333-125902
8	CWALT 2006-28CB(A8)	333-131630
9	CWALT-2007-24(A4)	333-140962
10	CWHL 2005-HYB4(2A1)	333-121249
11	CWHL 2006-3(1A1)	333-125963
12	CWL 2006-S5(A1)	333-132375

24 Class members falling within these 12 tranches would not have been able to obtain
25 any recovery without MashreqBank's role in this litigation.

7. I have thoroughly reviewed the terms of the Settlement and the Stipulation with MashreqBank and MashreqBank has agreed to the terms of the Settlement, including the award of attorneys' fees to plaintiffs' counsel.

8. The information in this declaration regarding The Mehdi Firm's time and expenses is taken from time and expense printouts prepared and maintained by my firm in the ordinary course of business. I oversaw and/or conducted the day-to-day activities in the litigation and have reviewed the time and expenses being submitted herein for reasonableness of the time and expenses committed to the litigation. The total lodestar amount for attorney/paralegal time based on The Mehdi Firm's current rates is \$140,672.50. The hourly rates shown below are the usual and customary rates set by my firm for each individual. A breakdown of the lodestar is as follows:

<i>NAME</i>		<i>HOURS</i>	<i>RATE</i>	<i>LODESTAR</i>
Azra Mehdi	(P)	187.25	\$725.00	\$135,756.25
Gabriela Hamilton	(PL)	17.25	\$285.00	\$ 4,916.25
<i>TOTAL:</i>		<i>204.50</i>		<i>\$140,672.50</i>

9. My firm seeks an award of \$2,704.84 in expenses in connection with the prosecution of the litigation. They are broken down as follows:

EXPENSES

From Inception to August 31, 2013

<i>EXPENSE CATEGORY</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Meals, Hotels & Transportation	2,125.82
Photocopies	0
Postage	0
Telephone, Facsimile	267.30
Messenger, Overnight Delivery	0
Filing, Witness & Other Fees	110.00
Court Hearing and Deposition Reporting, and Transcripts	0
Online Legal and Financial Research	201.72
Class Action Notices/Business Wire	0
Mediation Fees	0

<i>EXPENSE CATEGORY</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>		
Experts/Consultants/Investigators	0		
<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 289 990 340">Insert Name</td><td data-bbox="990 289 1198 340">\$</td></tr> </table>	Insert Name	\$	0
Insert Name	\$		
	0		
	0		
Database Management Charges	0		
Assessments/Contributions to Litigation Expense Fund	0		
<i>TOTAL</i>	\$2,704.84		

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 17th day of September, 2013 at San Francisco, California.

/s/Azra Z. Mehdi
AZRA Z. MEHDI

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on September 23, 2013, I authorized the electronic filing of the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the e-mail addresses denoted on the attached Electronic Mail Notice List, and I hereby certify that I caused to be mailed the foregoing document or paper via the United States Postal Service to the non-CM/ECF participants indicated on the attached Manual Notice List.

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on September 23, 2013.

s/ Spencer A. Burkholz
SPENCER A. BURKHOLZ

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Mailing Information for a Case 2:10-cv-00302-MRP-MAN

Electronic Mail Notice List

The following are those who are currently on the list to receive e-mail notices for this case.

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- ## Manual Notice List

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